

# CLEVELAND METROPARKS

established 1917

clevelandmetroparks.com

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**Cleveland  
Metroparks**



Honorable Kevin Hurst  
Walton Hills Village Hall  
7595 Walton Road  
Walton Hills, Ohio 44146

January 9, 2015

Re: Cleveland Metroparks 2015 Deer Management Program

Dear Mayor Kevin Hurst:

I am writing to inform you that Cleveland Metroparks will be continuing our deer management program this winter. A portion of Bedford Reservation is within the municipal boundaries of the City of Walton Hills, and a deer herd reduction is planned for this reservation. From 12 Noon to as late as Midnight, on several days during the period of mid-January through mid-March, the main body of Bedford Reservation will be closed to the public.

The safety protocol that has been successfully utilized by Cleveland Metroparks from the beginning of the program will continue. Deer will be culled by using highly skilled and trained marksmen for the purpose of re-establishment of balanced ecosystems. Safety remains the number one goal. Your police department will be notified prior to the initiation of specific culling within Bedford Reservation. The reservation will be posted/signed and closed completely during the management program. All shots will be fired from elevated truck or tree-mounted platforms using noise-suppressed rifles.

In addition to the posted closure signs, all residents who own property adjacent to Cleveland Metroparks property will be sent a letter informing them of the culling program. As in past years, venison will be donated to a local food bank.

Cleveland Metroparks has worked hard to insure that the deer management program is safe, humane and effective. If you have questions, please contact me at (216) 635-3295.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Zimmerman  
Chief Executive Officer

c: Chief Dan Veloski, Cleveland Metroparks Rangers  
Chief Kenn Thellmann, Chief of Police, Village of Walton Hills